
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT STATE OF CALIFORNIA



EXECUTIVE ORDER W- 132-96

WHEREAS, California suffers from a crisis of juvenile crime adolescent alcohol and drug use, academic failure, and teenage and out—of—wedlock pregnancy; and

WHEREAS, the facts demonstrate that a child who is not raised by both parents is more likely to become a juvenile delinquent, a teen parent, a school drop out, a recipient of public assistance, or an alcohol and drug addict than a child born to a married couple; and

WHEREAS, there is nothing better for keeping kids out of trouble than the love and active concern of both the child's mother and Father. But in the absence of both parents, society - all of us - must see to it that kids receive the love and discipline, the nurturing and guidance that they need to become healthy, productive adults; and

WHEREAS, there are an estimated 78,000 children on waiting lists to be mentored and only 65,000 to 70,000 individuals in California currently engaged in mentoring youth; and

WHEREAS, a Public/Private Ventures study of the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program found that children who are mentored were less likely to initiate drug and alcohol use, to hit someone, and to skip school, and were more likely to show academic gains than the control group; and

WHEREAS, given the effectiveness of mentoring in helping young people, the State of California proposes to recruit, train, and place 250,000 mentors for at-risk children and youth by the year 2000; and

WHEREAS, state government currently engages in and promotes mentoring on a limited 1 through programs at the California Conservation Corps, the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs, the Department of Community Services and Development, the Department of Corrections, the Employment Development Department, the Franchise Tax Board, the Office of Child Development and Education, and the Lottery Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Administration has proposed \$15 million in state funding to promote and support mentoring activities for the 1996—97 Budget year; and

WHEREAS, although public resources are important, government has a role but can be only a part of the response required of society to meet the challenge of expanding the number of caring, adult mentors; and

WHEREAS, creating a state level council comprised of the private sector, community-based organizations, and other community leaders to partner with government to highlight the need for mentors and encourage Californians to volunteer their time to help at-risk children and youth is critical to the goal of recruiting 250,000 mentors;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PETE WILSON, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby issue this order to become effective immediately:

1. Executive Order W-125-95 is rescinded in its entirety.
2. The California Mentor Council is created and shall be appointed by the Governor from representatives from business, the entertainment industry, community-based organizations and public entities. The Council shall:
 - A. Develop and implement a multi-year strategic plan to recruit, place, and train 250 mentors for at-risk children and youth by the year 2000;
 - B. Increase public awareness of the need for mentors and the benefits of mentoring enlisting the expertise and participation of the entertainment industry and media;
 - C. Recruit new mentors by assisting existing organizations to engage in replicate, or expand the reach of their mentoring effort;
 - D. Identify the most effective incentives to expand mentoring, including, but not limited to, ways in which government can promote mentoring in the private sector through tax incentives and media awareness campaigns;
 - E. Determine the viability for establishing a nonprofit organization to promote and expand mentoring;
3. State agencies, departments, boards, and commissions are directed to allow and encourage employees to mentor at risk children and youth and are hereby authorized to grant employees up to forty hours per year of compensated time to participate in mentoring activities during working hours, subject to the operational needs of the State, budgetary limits, limitations contained in Section 5, and any limitations imposed by law. Mentoring activities are defined as mentoring at-risk children and youth through a bonafide mentoring organization.
4. State employees must match any compensated time provided under Section 3 with their own personal time.
5. Due to public safety, public health care needs and budgetary limitations. Department of Corrections and California Youth Authority "post" employees as well as employees in state 24-hours care facilities are excluded from compensatory time provisions of Section 3. These employees are encouraged to become mentors during non-working hours.
6. The Department of Personnel Administration is directed to meet and confer with employee organizations regarding the implementation of Section 3 as required by law.

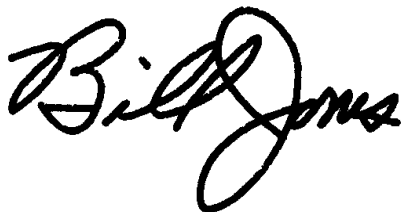
7. The Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs is directed to disseminate a list of bonafide mentoring organizations to enable state government to comply with Section 3.
8. The University of California, the California State University, and the California Community Colleges are requested to comply with Section 3.
9. The Superintendent of Public Instruction is requested to comply with Section 3.
10. The Mentor Resource Center is directed to serve as a central point of contact for state agencies and the general public for the dissemination of mentoring information. The Center shall maintain a database for mentor program referrals, a toll-free telephone line for public inquiries regarding mentoring, and internet access to its resources.
11. The California Conservation Corps is directed to expand the "Ambassadors Program" which trains second year corpsmembers to promote mentoring in local communities throughout the State.
12. The California Youth Authority is directed to expand both the "Young Men and Fathers" and "Preparing for Positive Parenting" programs at all institutions, camps, parole offices, and residential drug treatment programs by December 31, 1997.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 3rd day of April 1996.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pete Wilson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and a long, sweeping underline.

Pete Wilson
Governor of California

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Jones". The signature is cursive, with a large initial "B" and a long, sweeping underline.

Bill Jones
Secretary of State